



**GRAFTON TRAFFIC SAFETY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

30 Providence Road
Grafton, MA 01519
(508) 839-5335

RECEIVED TOWN CLERK
GRAFTON MA

2020 OCT -9 PM 3:01

**MEETING AGENDA
October 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88438394435?pwd=NzZ0VjhyUys2R25uNVVlV2trZmNXZz09>

Passcode: 320040

Phone: 312-626-6799

Webinar ID: 884 3839 4435

Passcode: 320040

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kcKHlocn6R>

Call meeting to order:

Present:

Accept minutes of meeting held on June 20, 2018:

New Business:

1. Request from David Minichiello for stop sign at Keith Hill Rd. and Salisbury St.
2. Request from John Karoway for "Prohibited Trucking" or "Truck Route" signs and "No Jake Brake" signs on North Main St. (Route 140) and Waterville St. (Route 30.)
3. Request from Keri Drake for a crosswalk between Gershom and Whitney Sts. and a "speed indicator" sign.
4. Request from Tracy Arredondo for Slow Children at Play signs on Deernolm, Hilltop and Fairlawn Sts.
5. Request from Gregory Klocek for a speed limit sign as well as a possible blind Driveway or disabled Child Sign in the area of 37 Old Westboro Rd.

6. Request from Brennan Wall for stop sign at the intersection for eastbound East St. traffic that is turning southbound onto Institute Rd. Also, a request for a "Stop Sign" on Pine St. at Westboro Rd. (Route 30).
7. Request from Bill Yeomans for flashing 30 mph speed limit lights on Providence Rd. near Depot St.
8. Request from Robert Cardoza for "Not a Truck Route" (Trucks Prohibited) signs posted on Pleasant St.

Old Business:

Adjourn:

EXHIBIT 1

Sent: Wednesday, January 15, 2020 9:45 AM

To: bosgroup@graffton-ma.gov

Subject: General Comments to the Town

Message:

Hi,

I live at ... Salisbury which is a dead end street off of Keith Hill. There is no stop sign where the road turns left to continue on Keith Hill. If you are trying to enter Salisbury street by driving straight there is a greater than 50% chance to getting in an accident as cars do not stop. How do I go about requesting a stop sign at that intersection? It

Your Name: David Minichiello

EXHIBIT 2

From: John Karoway

Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 4:35 PM

To: chief@grafftonpolice.com

Subject: Truck traffic on Rt. 30 Waterville St.

Hello; I've lived here about 20 years and the amount of heavy truck traffic has become excessive. A few of the issues in particular are:

1. Propane tankers. It was claimed at 1 of the town meetings that the eastern entrance would be the route. That's not the case. I've seen 2 or 3 trucks in a row come up empty from Rt. 140 and go back the same way. It's a pretty steady stream in the morning.

2. Harvey Waste Company. Obviously an easy shortcut to Westboro facility but they're out there all the time, even Sunday mornings 1 to 5 a.m. I know this because you can hear them rattling quite well when they're empty.

3. MBI trucking. Not sure what they're carrying other than it's some type of gross and smelly food waste.

It's not just the noise forced onto this otherwise residential neighborhood but also wear and tear on the road itself. I didn't include Dana trucking because they are actually located on this road, where as the others are not.

Is it possible to place a sign at Rt. 140 and RT.30 directing heavy/hazardous truck traffic up to Rt. 20?

There's 1 other thing--"Jake's Brakes". they seem to like to use them near Waterville Circle, where I live. It's a pretty straight piece of road without much of a grade. They wait until they come to where there's houses on both sides of the road and then "let it rip" because the noise is magnified, not because they have to brake. Could a "no Jake's Brakes" or "no engine braking" sign be put up near this stretch?

Looking forward to hearing from you and the committee,

John Karoway

By the way, with all the development proposed by the town for rt. 30, things can only get worse. Sometimes it takes 5 or 6 light changes to get onto 140 from rt.30

EXHIBIT 3

From: Keri Drake

Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 1:34 PM

To: Jennifer Thomas

Cc: Normand Crepeau <Chief@grafftonpolice.com>

Subject: Re: [Town of Grafton MA] Crosswalk & untended house on Whitney St. (Sent by Keri Drake,)

Thanks, Jen. Please do let me know about the other question after you've been able to research. Chief Crepeau, if you could let me know about how I can get this request in front of the Traffic Safety Committee, I'd appreciate it.

Best regards,
Keri Drake

Hello - I am hoping you can direct me to the proper town contacts for two items:

1) There is an abandoned house at 1 Whitney St. in N. Grafton that is at risk for squatters; the lawn is untended and shows its vacancy. Does the town have any authority to contact current owner (the bank?) to maintain the lawn that has overgrown the public sidewalk?

2) How do I petition for a crosswalk to be installed between Gershom & Whitney? The intersection is adjacent to a bend in the road where people are often speeding. Since Gershom is a cul de sac, the only outlet for walking/biking is to cross Old Westboro. Is it possible to occasionally have a speed indicator there as well?

EXHIBIT 4

Hello! My name is Layla and I think we should have a sign that is called slow down children at play because people zoom up here with out thinking about us. So it will be helpful to have a sign. So people will be aware that were here! Thank you for a serves stay safe and healthy!

Sign's called slow down
children at play!
Thank you

Sign's for Deernolm st and Hilltopst.
and Fairlawn St. all in north Grafton

My Daughter wrote and thought ~~of~~ this
all up by her self. We live at 16 Hilltopst.
Her name is Layla

Thank you for taking
the time to read this

RECEIVED

MAY 27 2020

SELECT BOARD
GRAFTON, MA

TRACY Arredondo

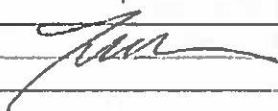


EXHIBIT 5

From: Gregory Klocek
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 1:36 PM
To: chief@graftonpolice.com
Subject: 37 Old Westboro Rd

Hello Chief this is Greg Klocek from xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx. How have you been? Hope all is very well with you and your Department is holding strong through these times.

The reason for my email Chief is I have been told to request through you signage for the roadways in Grafton. I am requesting a speed limit sign as well as a possible blind Driveway or disabled Child Sign... Being in the traffic Division in Woonsocket as I am sure you remember, all these request come through my division, but I have been told in the past by Highway that this request goes through you.

As you probably remember, I live at 37 Old Westboro Rd in Grafton and speed is an issue in front of my home. I have requested radar patrols and even the smart trailer to be placed out there in the past to try and deter some of it. I am also familiar with these requests through my division so I try to keep it at a minimum, I know your patrol is busy.

I am emailing you now because since the new Highway barn has been erected it has steadily increased with larger trucks even highway trucks speeding by my home. My dog was struck by a vehicle that fled a few weeks back and I had to erect an automatic gate to prevent the dog and also to deter my young son who is autistic from not trying to go near the road. I know from my own experience that the signs are sometimes just road ornaments, but at least it may deter some speeding issues.

I appreciate any help you can give and if I have been told wrong about requesting these signs from you please let me know and I will ask whomever I need to.

Again, thanks for your time and hope to see you soon.

Gregory M. Klocek

EXHIBIT 6

Sent: Sunday, August 16, 2020 12:20 PM
To: bosgroup@grafton-ma.gov
Subject: General Comments to the Town
Message:
RE: Dangerous street intersections

I have lived in Grafton for 21 years and I've come to understand that we have two street intersections that are unnecessarily dangerous. Both intersections described low have the common characteristics. Accordingly I'd be grateful if we could consider appropriate safety improvements.

East Street and Institute Road

Eastbound traffic on East Street that desires to head south on Institute Road curves to the right onto southbound Institute Road. There is no stop sign.

Rather a stop sign exists for southbound traffic on Institute Road. The result is that vehicle drivers that are eastbound East Street tend to take look left as their vehicle curves to the right to proceed on Institute Road. Visibility is limited and is further diminished by the fact that a person's vehicle is proceeding in one direction while they are looking in another direction. Over the years I've noticed this issue as runner as I proceed northbound on Institute Road. As a runner I'm on the left side of the street. From experience I am aware that eastbound traffic on East Street will not see me as their vehicles curve to the right onto southbound Institute Road and as their eyes naturally shift to the left to check that southbound traffic on Institute Road is stopped at the stop sign. I believe that this is a dangerous situation for pedestrians and runners that becomes more dangerous in darkness or low light conditions. As a suggestion I'd like to ask that we consider placing a stop sign at the intersection for eastbound East Street traffic that is turning southbound onto Institute Road because cars and trucks simply come around that curve far too fast.

Pine Street and Westborough Road (Route 30)

Southbound traffic on Pine Street that desires to head west on Westborough Road/Route 30 curves to the right onto Westborough Road/Route 30 at the MBTA Commuter Rail Station. There is a yield sign at the intersection. A number of years ago my vehicle was rear-ended as I slowed at that intersection to proceed carefully from southbound Pine Street onto to westbound Westborough Road/Route 30. The person operating the vehicle that struck my vehicle admitted that she was looking left for traffic coming down the hill from Tufts Veterinary School rather than looking in front of her and in the direction that her vehicle was moving. I was reminded of this last week when I was out running one evening. I was on the left side of Westborough Road/Route 30 heading east on Westborough Road/Route 30 when I approached the Pine Street intersection. A Grafton Police cruiser was southbound on Pine Street and was turning onto westbound Westborough Road/Route 30. I thought the police officer would clearly see me in my "hi-viz" running clothing but he clearly didn't as the screeching of the police cruiser tires suggested otherwise. Thank goodness he missed me. However the situation reminded me again that he was likely looking left for traffic heading west on Westborough Road/Route 30 just like the person who collided with my vehicle some years ago. I recognize that a stop sign at this intersection may impede the efficient emptying of the Commuter Rail parking lot when large numbers of vehicles are attempting to simultaneously exit the area, but some type of safety enhancement needs to be considered.

I understand that some people have views to the effect that the roads are for vehicles and that pedestrians, runners and cyclists should not be there and should not exist and that everything would be much simpler if we all utilized motor vehicles for every transportation aspect of our lives. In my view the problem with that perspective is that it ignores the reality that pedestrians and runners do exist and that there seems to be more people out walking now than ever before. Accordingly I'd be grateful if we could consider mitigating the inherent risks that exist at these intersections and that we avoid creating new similar "glide right look left" type intersections in our town.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Brennan Wall

North Grafton, MA 01536

EXHIBIT 7

Bill Yeomans
297 Providence Road
South Grafton MA 01560

August 28, 2018

Normand A. Crepeau, Jr.
Chief of Police
Grafton Police Department
28 Providence Road
Grafton MA 01519

Dear Chief Crepeau,

I'm writing to request that you initiate stronger enforcement of the 30mph speed limit on Providence Road from the 30mph sign now existing when traveling south to the 30mph sign that exists on this road when traveling from the Northbridge direction through the Depot St and Cumberland Farm stretch of the road in South Grafton.

Since moving to this area of South Grafton in late 2018, we've noticed a general disregard by many drivers of the 30mph limit in this area of Providence Road in both directions of travel. The area in front of our house seems to act as a raceway for those inclined to speed through this Village section of town.

In addition, I'm requesting installation of 2 flashing, electronic 30mph Speed Limit signs, similar to that used on Worcester Street to slow down vehicle speed on the approach to Grafton Center.

I feel that these flashing 30mph speed limit signs, installed on both travel approaches to this South Grafton Village area, would remind drivers to drive more slowly and cautiously through the area. I assume approval of my request for these signs falls under your purview as Chief.

Thanks in advance for your consideration and appropriate action regarding my request. I'll be happy to discuss this at your convenience. I can be reached at 508-244-9446

Cordially,

Bill Yeomans

CC:
Select Board
Carter Terenzini, Interim Town Administrator
Rebecca Meekins, Asst. Town Administrator

EXHIBIT 8

From: Robert Cardoza
Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 12:26 PM
To: chief@griftonpolice.com
Subject: big semi-rigs using Pleasant St

Good Day Chief:

I have lived on Pleasant Street most of 65 years and usually have been a peaceful tiime....however, I wish to bring to your attention the 18 wheel big semi-rigs that frequent Pleasant St....God forbid one of these rigs is coming one way with a car or truck going the other...at the same time families of bicyclists, joggers, and/or walkers are also passing...the results will be catastrophic one day.....I know trucks have the right to drive on Grafton streets as well as regular motor vechicles, however big semi's (most of them sounding over payload) should be seeking an alternate route....Pleasant Street is NOT zoned for business. The alternate route to be taken by these big rigs should be 122 to Cross St..to 122A or visa versa....Cross St, the argument goes is also not a common route, however Cross St is in fact, Zoned for Business...there are large companies on this street who have to rely on big truck deliveries...

My request is simple...post signage at the beginning and end of Pleasant St stating: "Not A Truck Route"....even if it detoured 2 trucks out of a dozen a day, it would be a help....I hope this will be brought up at the next traffic committee meeting...

I feel for the pedestrians (now more than ever)however, foot traffic was always heavy even before Covid-19

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Respectfully,

Robert W Cardoza
South Grafton, MA 01560



TOWN OF GRAFTON
GRAFTON MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER
30 PROVIDENCE ROAD
GRAFTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01519
(508) 839-5335
FAX (508) 839-4602

PUBLIC MEETING REMOTE PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

March 24, 2020

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, the various Boards and Committees representing the Town of Grafton will conduct their public meetings and hearings via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted.

In Advance of Meetings:

- All non-emergency items are still required to be properly posted at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. This is still done by contacting the Clerk's Office.
- All members should receive the same documents for the meeting electronically
- Supporting documents should be posted on the Town website and be available for members of the public.
- For meetings with public participation, encourage written public comments.

Essential Components for Remote Meetings:

- Access to participate for a quorum of committee members at the time of the meeting.
- Ability to take minutes which accurately reflect the meeting and the votes taken.
- Ability to record meeting for playback (this is not required under the order, but is preferred)
- Ability to allow for real-time public participation/comments (this is not required under the order, but is preferred)
- Meetings with public hearings must provide access for third party participation to all members of the committee.

Identifying the Proper Medium to Conduct Meetings:

While we are suspending the use of Municipal Center Conference Rooms and the local broadcasting equipment, there are alternatives for Boards and Committees to consider. Below are a few options available to Committees. There may be alternatives that members are more comfortable using which will be permitted so long as the essential components for all meetings are met through use of that medium.

- *Executive Town of Grafton Zoom Account with Webinar Functions* – this account was purchased by the Town Administrator's Office and has a webinar function for hosting meetings that require public participation/third party access for participation. This method is currently the preferred method and should be used by Boards and Committees that have hearings and require third party participation through public comments or from

applicants seeking permits. (includes but is not limited to: Select Board, Planning Board, ZBA, CPC, School Committee, Conservation Commission)

- At this time, the Town only has one executive host account with a webinar feature. If you wish to use the executive zoom account with webinar feature, you may need to schedule meetings at different times/days than your board typically meets to ensure no conflict with other meetings.
- *Standard/Free Zoom Accounts* – Anyone can access a free zoom account with up to 100 participants for a maximum 40-minute meeting. This function will allow for Boards and Committees to record their meetings for future playback and the ability to share screens. Please note that there are several systems available that offer similar abilities and any of them can be used for this purpose. (ex. Google Meet, Skype for Business, Microsoft Teams, etc.)
- *Free Conference Call Line*- For Boards and Committees that typically do not have recorded meetings and require little third-party interaction, the free conference call line is an option. This option does not have a record feature so accurate minute taking is critical.
- *Local Cable Access*- Currently, the town is not allowing for local cable access broadcast through the conference rooms in the Municipal Center. However, to the extent possible, local cable will be used if it is accessible and safe for staff, committee members, and members of the public.

Use of Zoom for Remote Access to Public Meetings

Zoom Video Communications, Inc. (“Zoom”) can be used for remote conferencing services to allow for remote access to public meetings. Access numbers and web addresses will be provided as part of each meeting’s agenda posted to the town calendar on the homepage of Grafton’s website, www.grafton-ma.gov.

Meetings can be accessed from your personal computer, cellphone and/or telephone. It is anticipated that most Board and Committee meetings will continue to be broadcasted by Grafton Access Television through Zoom’s “Record” feature.

Protocols for Remote Public Meetings Using the Webinar Feature

- All participants entering the meeting via a personal computer (“computer participants”) are required to rename themselves with their official first and last name.
- Computer participants are encouraged to click on the “Participants” feature in Zoom to view all participants and to view/use the “Q&A” function to pose questions on the bottom of the screen.
- Computer participants may “Pin” to a particular video screen.
 - It is recommended to “Pin” to the staff member associated with the committee, or in the case where there is no staff member, to the Chairperson. This can be done by right clicking over the three (3) dots symbol in the top right corner of the staff/Chair’s video screen.
- The Chair or present support staff should adhere to the script provided as an attachment to this document for the purpose of properly recognizing members and providing information to the public. (This script is a draft/guide and should be tailored to your needs)
- The Chairman will identify him or herself.
- The Chairman will conduct a roll call of the Board.

- The Chairman will call the meeting to order.
- All participants (excluding Board members) will be muted throughout the meeting and must use the Q&A function.
- All participants are required to include their name and address when using the chat feature to pose a question through the Chairperson.
- All documents displayed throughout the meeting will be controlled by the present staff member or Chairperson.
 - Only computer participants will be able to view documents.
- If and when the Chairman allows for public comments/questions, it will be conducted in the following sequence:
 1. The Chairman will read public comments/questions received in advance of the meeting followed by real-time Board and/or applicant responses.
 2. The Chairman will read real-time comments/questions typed by computer participants in the “Q&A” feature followed by real-time Board and/or applicant responses.
 - Computer participants must click on “Q&A” to enter their comment/question.
 - The staff or Chair will address the question live to the Board. It will be discussed and then marked “answered” by the staff or Chair.
 3. The Chairman will ask if any other participants accessing the meeting have comments/questions.
- Board members needing to be recused at any point during the course of a meeting will be placed in a virtual “Waiting Room” by the staff person or Chairperson.

Directions to access meetings will be posted on agendas for the public when available.